THE PRINCIPAL

ACTS

OF THE

General Assembly

OF THE

CHURCH

OF

SCOTLAND,

Conveened at *Edinburgh*, the 6th of *May*, 1725.

Collected and Extracted from the Records, by the Clerk thereof.

EDINBURGH:
Printed by Mr. JAMES DAVIDSON and ROBERT FLEMING, Printers to the CHURCH of SCOTLAND, and sold at the said Mr. *Davidson*'s Shop, 1725.

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EDINBURGH:
Printed by M. [illegible]
PLEMING, Printer to the Right Honourable the Lords of Session,
and to the [illegible]
1795.

THE PRINCIPAL

ACTS

OF THE

GENERAL ASSEMBLY of the Church of SCOTLAND,

Holden and begun at *Edinburgh* upon *Thursday* the 6th Day of *May* 1725, and ending the 17th Day of that same Month and Year.

I. *The KING's Commission to* Hugh *Earl of* Loudoun *produced, and ordered to be recorded.*

At Edinburgh, 6th May 1725, Sess. 1.

THE General Assembly of the Ministers and Ruling Elders of this National Church being conveened and constituted, there was produced to them, by the Right Honourable *Hugh* Earl of *Loudoun*, His Majesty's Commission, seal'd with the Seal appointed by the Treaty of Union betwixt the two Kigdoms of *Scotland* and *England*, to be kept and used in *Scotland*, in Place of the Great Seal of *Scotland*, of the same Tenor with the Commission granted by His Majesty to the foresaid Earl in the Year 1722, appointing him His Majesty's High Commissioner and Representative in this National Assembly: Which Commission being publickly read, with all due Honour and Respect, the General Assembly ordered the same to be recorded in their Registers, *ad futuram rei memoriam*.

The

The KING's most gracious Letter to the General Assembly, presented to them by His Majesty's Commissioner, May 6th, 1725. Sess. I.

GEORGE R.

RIGHT Reverend and Well-beloved. We greet you well. That fresh Zeal and Affection to our Person and Government, as well as Concern for the Interest and Prosperity of the Church, which have so eminently appeared in your former Assemblies, leave Us no Room to Doubt but we shall find in you the same good Spirit and Disposition on all future Occasions, especially in this your present Meeting, which we therefore most willingly approve of and countenance with our Royal Authority.

WE have given you so many Assurances of Our Resolutions to maintain inviolable the Rights and Privileges of the Church of *Scotland*, as by Law established, that we think it unnecessary to repeat them at this Time, or to recommend to you such Measures as shall be conceived to conduce most to the flourishing Estate of the true reformed Religion, the promoting of Virtue and discouraging Vice and Immorality; in all which you may be assured of our Approbation and Concurrence.

OUR Commissioner has it in his Instructions to signify to you the Steps taken by Us to put some Stop to the spreading of Ignorance and Prophaneness on the one Hand, and the Trafficking of Popish Priests and Emissaries on the other, in the Highlands and Islands, of which frequent Representations have been laid before Us from several preceeding Assemblies and their Commissions.

AS nothing can be more becoming a Religious Assembly than the Spirit of Moderation and Unanimity, so can it suffer in nothing more than in Divisions, which We therefore most earnestly exhort you to avoid, and guard against the Practices of such as would labour to destroy that Brotherly Love and Affection which ought to shine and prevail in all your Debates and Councils.

WE

We are so sensible of the Capacity and Abilities of Our Right Trusty and Wellbeloved Cousin and Counsellor *Hugh* Earl of *Loudoun*, that we have thought fit to renew our Choice of him to represent Our Royal Person in this Assembly, not doubting but his true Concern for the Church, as well as Zeal for our Service, will render him acceptable to you. And so we bid you heartily farewell. Given at Our Court at St. *James*'s, the Seventeenth Day of *April*, One thousand seven hundred and twenty five, in the Eleventh Year of Our Reign.

By His Majesty's Command,

ROXBURGH.

III.

The General Assembly's Answer to the King's most gracious Letter.

Edinburgh, May 8th, 1725. Sess. 3.

May it please Your Majesty,

WE embrace with the greatest Satisfaction this new Opportunity of making a dutiful Return to Your Majesty's most gracious Letter to us. We esteem it our great Honour, that Your Majesty is pleased again to take Notice, in so kind and encouraging Terms, of the steddy Zeal and Affection to Your Majesty's Royal Person and Government, which has appeared in the former Assemblies of this Church: And we should be most unworthy of so many Instances of Your Royal Favour, if we did not continue to be of the same good Spirit and Disposition, on all future Occasions, and particularly in this our present Meeting, which Your Majesty is pleased so willingly to approve of, and countenance with Your Royal Authority.

'TIS with the greatest Joy and Satisfaction we reflect on the many repeated Assurances Your Majesty has been pleased formerly to give us, of Your Resolution to maintain inviolable the Rights and Privileges of the Church of *Scotland*, by Law established; on which we rely with the most entire Confidence: And do acknowledge our selves to be thereby laid under the strongest Obligations

to purſue ſuch Meaſures, as ſhall be conceived to conduce moſt to the flouriſhing Eſtate of the true reformed Religion, the promoting of Virtue, and diſcouraging Vice and Immorality, in which we are greatly encouraged by the Aſſurance Your Majeſty gives us of Your Royal Approbation and Concurrence.

May it pleaſe Your Majeſty,

As Your Majeſty's Reign and wiſe Adminiſtration has, from the Beginning, been moſt auſpicious to all Your Dominions; ſo they have in a very particular Manner proved a great Bleſſing to this Church: And we have now a new and diſtinguiſhed Inſtance of Your Majeſty's great Goodneſs and Fatherly Care, in appointing a proper Fund to be applied for the Proviſion and Entertainment of ſuch Itinerant Preachers and Catechiſts, as ſhall be employed in the *Highlands* and *Iſlands* of *Scotland*, for removing of Ignorance, and putting a Stop to Profaneneſs and the Growth of Popery; For which Royal Bounty we are engag'd by the ſtrongeſt Ties to return our moſt ſincere and dutiful Thanks.

We cannot but rejoice, that the Repreſentations made by former Aſſemblies and their Commiſſions have moved Your Royal Heart, ſo effectually to take Care of the Good of Mankind, and the Welfare of precious Souls, as to provide ſo bountifully for inſtructing them in the Faith and Practice of the true Chriſtian Religion, and preventing their being ſeduced to Vice and the Errors of Popery.

As we have the deepeſt Senſe of Gratitude for this Your Royal Donation, ſo we hope the due and faithful Application of it to the pious Purpoſes, for which it is granted by Your Majeſty, ſhall appear by the Accounts of the Diſtribution, which ſhall be annually exhibited to Your Majeſty's High Treaſurer, or Commiſſioners of Your Treaſury, or Barons of Your Majeſty's Court of *Exchequer* in *Scotland*, in Obedience to the Direction contained in Your Majeſty's Royal Warrant: And it does afford us the greateſt Pleaſure and Encouragement to conſider, that by the Bleſſing of GOD on our Endeavours, the ſame Methods that contribute to remove the Ignorance and Superſtition of the rude Inhabitants of thoſe remote Places, and to defeat the Attempts of Popiſh Emiſſaries, muſt neceſſarily tend to impreſs them with Sentiments of Loyalty towards Your Majeſty, to promote the Intereſt of Your happy Government and Royal Family, and diſpoſe them to give a due and chearful Obedience to Your Majeſty and the juſt Laws, to which all Your Subjects ought to conform themſelves. We have always look'd on our ſelves to be bound by the ſtricteſt Ties, to endeavour

to influence the People committed to our Charge with a due Senſe of their Duty in thoſe Particulars, and we ſhall be careful to inſtruct ſuch as ſhall be employ'd upon Your Majeſty's gracious Donation, to uſe their utmoſt Endeavours among the People with whom they are to deal, for the ſame Purpoſe.

We are very ſenſible, that nothing can be more becoming a Religious Aſſembly, than the Spirit of Moderation and Unanimity, and that it can ſuffer by nothing more than by Diviſions; and therefore (as Your Majeſty is pleaſed graciouſly to exhort us) we are reſolved, by the Grace of GOD, to avoid them, and to guard againſt the Practices of all ſuch, as under any Pretence whatſoever, would labour to deſtroy that Brotherly Love and Affection, which Your Majeſty, ſo juſtly obſerves, ought to ſhine in all our Debates and Councils.

The Earl of *Londoun*'s Capacity and Abilities, by which he has ſo often diſtinguiſhed himſelf in Your Majeſty's Service, and in promoting the Good of this Church, whoſe Intereſts were on many Occaſions the particular Care of his noble Anceſtors, render Your Majeſty's Choice of him to repreſent Your Royal Perſon in this Aſſembly moſt acceptable to us.

That our gracious GOD may plentifully reward Your Majeſty and Your Royal Family the many great Favours You have conferr'd upon this Church; That He may long preſerve Your Majeſty to reign a happy Prince over an obedient People; That He may long continue You to be Guardian of the Proteſtant Religion both at Home and Abroad; That He may greatly bleſs their Royal Highneſſes, the Prince and Princeſs of *Wales*, and their Royal Off-ſpring, and make theſe Nations happy in a Succeſſion of Proteſtant Princes of Your Royal Line to lateſt Poſterity, who may inherit Your Royal Virtues, as well as Your Crown, is, and ſhall be the earneſt Prayer of,

May it pleaſe Your Majeſty,

Your Majeſty's moſt faithful, moſt obedient and moſt loyal Subjects,

The Miniſters and Elders met in this National Aſſembly of the Church of Scotland,

Signed in our Preſence, in our Name, and at our Appointment, by

JA. ALSTON, Moderator.

IV.

Commission to some Ministers and Ruling-Elders for discussing diverse Affairs referred to them.

Edinburgh, May 15th, 1725. Sess. 11.

THE General Assembly taking to their Consideration, That there are diverse weighty Affairs which they cannot overtake, do nominate, commissionate and appoint their Reverend Brethren, Mr. *James Alston* Minister at *Dirleton* their Moderator, Masters *Walter Campbell* at *Dunoon*, *Robert Glen* at *Lochgoil*, *Patrick Campbell* at *Killean*, *Dougald Campbell* at *Southend*, *Alexander Campbell* at *Inveraray*, *Duncan Campbell* at *Kilmartine*, *William Morison* at *Tirree*, *Archibald M'Clean* at *Ross* in *Mull*, *Adam Fergusson* at *Logierate*, *John Gow* at *Cargill*, *George Frier* at *Lethendy*, *John Rankin* at *Cluny*, *William Moncrieff* at *Methven*, *Thomas Black* at *Perth*, *James Mercer* at *Aberdalgie*, *Thomas Finlayson* at *Dumbarny*, *William Hally* at *Muthill*, *Andrew Ure* at *Fossoway*, *Andrew Burgh* at *Maderty*, *Alexander Hamilton* at *Airth*, *Archibald Campbell* at *Lerbert*, *Matthew Wallace* at *Kincardine*, *Patrick Duchall* at *Logie*, *Allan Logan* at *Culross*, *John Bryce* at *Saline*, *Samuel Charters* at *Innerkeithing*, *James Henry* at *Kinghorn*, *Alexander Bonthron* at *Dysart*, *Robert Ponton* at *Kennoway*, *William Thomson* at *Flisk*, *William Knox* at *Darsie*, *Robert Laing* at *Newburgh*, *John Greg* at *Coupar*, *James Hadow* Principal of the New-College of St. *Andrews*, *Alexander Anderson* at St. *Andrews*, *William Cuninghame* at *Kemback*, *James Chalmers* at *Ely*, *James Nairn* at *Anstruther*, *James Ramsay* at *Bendochie*, *George Clephan* at *Newtild*, *John Heugh* at *Kinkauldrum*, *Hugh Maxwell* at *Forfar*, *John Ogilvie* at *Tannadice*, *Samuel Johnstoun* at *Dundee*, *Robert Kinloch* there, *George Fleming* at *Lundie*, *Charles Charters* at *Arbirlot*, *William Moncrieff* at *Kinnell*, *George Wemyss* at *Fairn*, *Robert Gray* at *Brechin*, *Robert Steven* at *Craig*, *Andrew Honnyman* at *Kinneff*, *David Burns* at *Fetteresso*, *Gilbert Anderson* at *Fordoun*, *Thomas Blackwell* Principal of the College of *New-Aberdeen*, *David*

vid Anderſon Profeſſor of Divinity in the King's College of *Aberdeen*, *James Howie* at *Newhills*, *John Biſſet* at *Newmachir*, *George Chalmers* Principal of the King's College of *Aberdeen*, *John Shepherd* at *Logie-Colſton*, *Alexander Toaſh* at *Tarland*, *George Shepherd* at *Aboyne*, *James Gordon* at *Alford*, *Steven Oliver* at *Forbes*, *Walter Sym* at *Tillineſſel*, *Alexander Simpſon* at *Inch*, *John Lumiſden* at *Keithhall*, *James Strachan* at *Kinkell*, *John Webſter* at *Cruden*, *Alexander Gordon* at *Foverain*, *William Leſly* at St. *Fergus*, *James Leſly* at *Crimond*, *John Mercer* at *Tyrie*, *Alexander Irvine* at *Fordice*, *Alexander Philp* at *Deskford*, *George Johnſton* at *King-Edward*, *William Miln* at *Innerkeithney*, *John Gilchriſt* at *Keith*, *Walter Sym* at *Glaſs*, *Thomas Fairbairn* at *Gertly*, *James Chapman* at *Cromdell*, *Francis Grant* at *Duthell*, *James Thomſon* at *Elgin*, *Joſeph Sanderſon* at *Alves*, *James Dunbar* at *Duffus*, *James Gordon* at *Kinloſs*, *James Wincheſter* at *Raffan*, *Daniel Mackenzie* at *Petty*, *Alexander M'Bean* at *Inverneſs*, *Robert Finlay* at *Roſmarkny*, *John M'Arthur* at *Killurnan*, *Thomas Chiſholm* at *Kilmorack*, *John Bayne* at *Dingwall*, *Hugh Monro* at *Tayne*, *John Balfour* at *Logie*, *Robert Kirk* at *Dornock*, *Robert Robertſon* at *Loth*, *James Gilchriſt* at *Kilmalie*, *John Skeldoch* at *Kilmanivaig*, *Daniel M'Aulay* at *Braccadale*, *Norman M'Leod* at *Diurineſs*, *Daniel Moriſon* at *Stornævoy*, *Aulay M'Aulay* at *Herris*, *Murdo M'Leod* at *Glenelg*, *James Smith* at *Gairloch*, *Alexander Brody* at *Diurneſs* in *Strathnaver*, *John Monro* at *Halkirk*, *William Scot* at *Kirkwall*, *Andrew Giles* at *Birſay*, *Alexander Nisbet* at *Shapinſhay*, *John Scollay* at *Stronſay*, *Thomas Hay* at *Tell*, *James Grierſon* at *Tingwall*, *William Wiſehart* Principal of the College of *Edinburgh*, *William Mitchel* at *Edinburgh*, *William Millar* there, *James Smith* at *Cramond*, *James Nisbet* at *Edinburgh*, *Matthew Crawfurd* Profeſſor of Church Hiſtory in the College of *Edinburgh*, *William Hamilton* Profeſſor of Divinity there, *John Wilkie* at *Uphall*, *John Brand* at *Borrowſtounneſs*, *Robert Hunter* at *Livingſton*, *Robert Dalgleiſh* at *Linlithgow*, *John Tait* at *Kilbucho*, *Simon Kelly* at *Glenholm*, *James Robertſon* at *Eccleſtoun*, *William Livingſton* at *Traquair*, *John Hay* at *Peebles*, *Patrick Cumine* at *Ormiſtoun*, *John Wilſon* at *Glencorſs*, *David Hutchiſon* at *Dalkeith*, *John Cumine* at *Humbie*, *John Barclay* at *Morholm*, *Robert Paton* at *Hadinton*, *James Glen* at *Whitinghame*, *John Hamilton* at *Stenton*, *Laurence Johnſton* at *Dunſe*, *William Hume* at *Fogo*, *William Wilſon* at *Hilton*, *Henry Veitch* at *Swintoun*, *Thomas Anderſon* at *Aitoun*, *James Ramſay* at *Kelſo*, *John Pollock* at *Roxburgh*, *James Noble* at *Eckford*, *George Elliot* at *Hownam*, *Robert Bell* at *Crealine*, *Henry Hume* at

Channelkirk, *David Brown* at *Gordon*, *Adam Miln* at *Melroſs*, *William Bannantyne* at *Yarrow*, *James Govanlock* at *Kilpatrick*, *James M'Garroch* at *Eskdalemuir*, *Thomas Goldie* at *Kilpatrickjuxta*, *Andrew Clark* at *Tindergirth*, *Patrick Cumine* at *Lochmaben*, *Simon Riddel* at *Tinrom*, *Robert Jarden* at *Glencairn*, *James Guthry* at *Irongray*, *Alexander Robertſon* at *Tinwald*, *Robert Wight* at *Tarthorwald*, *William Tod* at *Buttle*, *William M'Kie* at *Balmaghie*, *George Gartſhore* at *Kirkcudbright*, *William Coupar* at *Mochrum*, *John Millar* at *Penninghame*, *John Anderſon* at *Kirkmaiden*, *James Twedale* at *Glenluce*, *Andrew Rogers* at *Galſtoun*, *John M'Dermit* at *Air*, *Robert Iiſher* at *Maybole*, *George Reid* at *Symintoun*, *William Coats* at *Dalmellingtoun*, *Hugh Falſide* at *Newmills*, *John Fullarton* at *Dalry*, *Alexander Fergusſon* at *Kilwinning*, *Niel Campbell* at *Renfrew*, *Robert Wodrow* at *Eaſtwood*, *Henry Hunter* at *Merns*, *John Stirling* Principal of the College of *Glaſgow*, *James Stirling* at *Baronry-pariſh*, *John Hamilton* at *Glaſgow*, *Andrew Tait* at *Carmonock*, *Matthew Connel* at *Kilbride*, *John Curry* at *Oldmonkland*, *John Wiſeman* at *Newmonkland*, *Thomas Linen* at *Leſmahago*, *James Hepburn* at *Crawford*, *James Dick* at *Carluke*, *David Fleckfield* at *Balfron*, *James Livingſton* at *Strathblain*, and *James Anderſon* at *Roſeneath*, Miniſters; The moſt Honourable *John* Marquis of *Tweeddale*, the right Honourable *David* Earl of *Buchan*, *Charles* Earl of *Lauderdale*, *Thomas* Earl of *Hadintoun*, *James* Earl of *Findlater*, *Alexander* Earl of *Marchmont*, *James* Earl of *Hyndford*, *David* Earl of *Glaſgow*, *Archibald* Earl of *Iſla*, *William* Lord *Roſs*, *James* Lord *Torphichen*, *George* Lord *Reay*, Sir *Hugh Dalrymple* of *Northberwick* Baronet, Lord Preſident of the Seſſion, Mr. *Robert Dundas* younger of *Arniſtoun* Lord Advocate, *Adam Cockburn* of *Ormiſtoun* Lord Juſtice-Clerk, Sir *John Maxwell* of *Nether-Pollock* Baronet, Sir *Alexander Ogilvie* of *Forglen* Baronet, Mr. *James Erskine* of *Grange*, Sir *Francis Grant* of *Cullen* Baronet, Mr. *James Hamilton* of *Pancaitland*, Sir *Andrew Hume* of *Kimmerghame*, Sir *Walter Pringle* of *Newhall*, eight of the Senators of the College of Juſtice, Sir *John Clark* of *Pennycook* Baronet, one of the Barons of His Majeſty's Exchequer, *John Campbell* Eſq; Lord Provoſt of *Edinburgh*, Sir *James Campbell* of *Ardkinglaſs* Baronet, *George Drummond* Eſq; one of the Commiſſioners of His Majeſty's Cuſtoms, *Ronald Campbell* of *Balerno*, Dr. *William Steuart* of *Ambriſmore* Phyſician, *Patrick Campbell* of *Inverinan*, Sir *Duncan Campbell* of *Lochnell*, Mr. *Mungo Campbell* of *Clune*, *Patrick Small* of *Lianoch*, *William Fergusſon* Provoſt of *Perth*, Mr. *Robert Craigie* of *Carie* Advocate, *Robert Burgh* of *Boghall*, Colonel *John Blaccader*,

Deputy

Deputy Governor of *Stirling* Castle, Mr. *Alexander Abercromby* of *Tillibody* Advocate, the Honourable Colonel *John Erskine* of *Carnock*, Dr. *Robert Hay*, Mr. *Robert Hay* of *Naughton*, Mr. *James M'Gill* of *Rankeillor*, Dr. *John Moncrieff* of *Ramgay*, Mr. *Charles Gregory* Professor of Mathematicks in the College of St. *Andrews*, *Thomas Millar* Writer in *Elyth*, *George Nicol* Merchant in *Forfar*, *George Ramsay* Provost of *Dundee*, *Alexander Ferrier* Dean of Gild there, *James Doig* Baillie in *Aberbrothwick*, *John Gordon* late Provost of *Aberdeen*, *Robert Steuart* present Provost there, Mr. *George Gordon* Professor of the Oriental Languages in *Aberdeen*, *William Crookshank* Baillie there, Colonel *Robert Reid* of *Redfield*, *John Forbes* of *Balfluig*, *George Fordice* of *Broadford*, Mr. *Robert Dunbar* of *Kirkhill*, Mr. *Alexander Garden* of *Troup* Advocate, Mr. *Patrick Grant* of *Easter-Elchies* Advocate, *James Grant* of *That-ilk*, *John Sutherland* of *Greenhall*, *Hugh Rose* of *Kilravock*, Mr. *Duncan Forbes* Advocate, *John Forbes* of *Culloden*, *Duncan Forbes* Baillie of *Fortrose*, Colonel *Robert Munro* of *Fowlis*, *George Munro* of *Culcairn*, Sir *John Gordon* of *Embo* Baronet, *William M'Leod* of *Hammir*, the honourable Mr. *John Sinclair* His Majesty's Solicitor, Mr. *Robert Honnyman* of *Graemsay*, *Malcolm Scollay* of *Hunton*, Captain *James Craigie* in *Lerwick*, *James Nimmo* late Baillie of *Edinburgh*, Dr. *Alexander Dundas* His Majesty's Physician, *Alexander Arbuthnot* late Baillie in *Edinburgh*, *Duncan Campbell* present Baillie there, *John Kier* Deacon Conveener there, *George Dundas* of *That-ilk* Advocate, *William Wilkie* of *Rathobyres*, Mr. *Alexander Menzies* of *Coulterallas* Advocate, Sir *James Steuart* of *Goodtrees* Baronet, Mr. *Robert Hepburn* Writer to the Signet, Mr. *Hugh Dalrymple* Senior Advocate, Mr. *Thomas Hamilton* Advocate, Mr. *Thomas Menzies* of *Letham* Advocate, Mr. *John Dickson* of *Antonshill*, Sir *John Steuart* of *Allanbank* Baronet, *Thomas Kennedy* Merchant in *Kelso*, *Archibald Douglas* of *Cavers*, *Robert Rutherford* of *Fernylee*, Sir *William Johnston* of *Westerhall* Baronet, Mr. *Luke Gibson* Preacher of the Gospel, *Herbert Kennedy* Merchant in *Dumfreis*, Mr. *David Newall* in *Waterside* of *Kells*, *John Martine* of *Airies*, Sir *Charles Hay* of *Park* Baronet, the honourable Colonel *William Dalrymple* of *Glenmore*, Mr. *James Boswel* of *Auchinleck* Advocate, *Francis Dunlop* of *That-ilk*, *Alexander Finlayson* of *Nielstonside*, *Hugh Montgomery* of *Hartfield*, *Charles Millar* present Provost of *Glasgow*, the Honourable Mr. *John Campbell* of *Mamore*, and Mr. *George Smollet* of *Ingliston* Advocate, Ruling Elders, to be Commissioners of this General Assembly, to the Effects after-mentioned; With Power to the said Commissioners

or their *Quorum*, which is hereby declared to be any Thirty one of the ſaid Commiſſioners, whereof Twenty one are always to be Miniſters, to meet and conveen within the Aſſembly-Houſe at *Edinburgh*, the firſt free Day after the Diſſolution of this Aſſembly at Ten of the Clock Forenoon; And afterwards the ſecond *Wedneſdays* of *Auguſt*, *November* and *March* next to come, and oftner when and where they ſhall think fit and convenient; With Power to the ſaid Commiſſioners to chuſe their own Moderator. And ſicklike, the General Aſſembly fully impowers and authorizes their ſaid Commiſſioners, or their *Quorum* above-mentioned, to cognoſce and finally determine, as they ſhall ſee Cauſe, in every Matter referred, or that ſhall be referred to them, by any Act or Order of this Aſſembly; And to do every Thing contained in, and conform to the Inſtructions given, or to be given by this Aſſembly; and to advert to the Intereſts of the Church on every Occaſion, that the Church and preſent Eſtabliſhment thereof do not ſuffer or ſuſtain any Prejudice which they can prevent, as they will be anſwerable: Providing always, that this general Clauſe be not extended to particular Affairs, or Proceſſes before Synods or Presbyteries that are not of univerſal Concern to, or Influence upon the whole Church. And 'tis hereby appointed, that what ſhall be determined at one Diet of the ſaid Commiſſion, with Relation to private Cauſes, ſhall be unalterable by any other Diet thereof, and ſhall ſtand and continue in Force, till diſapproven by the General Aſſembly. And the General Aſſembly renews the Inſtructions given by the General Aſſembly, *anno* 1717, to their Commiſſion; and appoints the ſame to ſtand in full Force, as Inſtructions to the Commiſſioners above-named, and to be obſerved by them in all Points, as if the ſame were ſpecially here inſert: And that they enquire into the publiſhing and ſpreading of Books and Pamphlets, tending towards the promoting of Opinions of whatever Kind, inconſiſtent with our Confeſſion of Faith; and that the Recommenders of ſuch Books or Pamphlets, or the Errors therein contained, whether by Word, Writ or Print, be called before the ſaid Commiſſion to anſwer for the ſame. And further, the ſaid Commiſſion is hereby impowered to receive any References and Appeals that ſhall be made to them, from Synods, in Matters of Doctrine, and ripen ſuch Affairs for the General Aſſembly. Likewiſe to take Care, that the Impreſſions of the holy Scriptures, the Confeſſion of Faith and Catechiſms, and ſuch Books as are authorized by this Church, relating to the Doctrine, Worſhip, Diſcipline and Government thereof, be correct, and to give Directions about printing

the

the same. They are also appointed at their first Meeting, to take under Consideration all the Representations of the Growth of Popery within the Bounds of this National Church, and of Meeting Houses not authoriz'd by Law, which have been brought up to this and former Assemblies, or Commissions thereof, or that may be further offered to this Commission; and to apply to the Government for a proper Remedy, and speedy Redress. And the said Commissioners are hereby strictly prohibited and discharged to meddle in any other Matters, than what are committed and referred to them as above-mentioned: And in all their Actings they are to proceed according to the Acts and Constitutions of this National Church, and to do nothing contrary thereto, or to the Prejudice of the same: Declaring, that in and for all their Actings, they shall be accountable to, and censurable by the next General Assembly, as they shall see Cause. And this Commission is to continue and endure, until another Commission be appointed. And Members are required to attend the Diets of the said Commission, and Absents therefrom ordered to be noticed, according to the Seventeenth Act of the General Assembly, *anno* 1706. And for the better securing of a *Quorum*, and Attendance of Members on the Commission, the General Assembly prohibits the Presbytery of *Edinburgh*, and other Presbtyeries within twelve Miles thereof, to meet any of the Days or Weeks appointed for the Meeting of this Commission; and such of the Members of these Presbyteries, as are on the Commission, are required all of them to give punctual Attendance on the Diets thereof: And Presbyteries at a greater Distance, who have four or more Members one the Commission, are to take Care, that at least two of them attend each Diet of the same.

V.

Act erecting the Presbytery of Cairstoun, *and a Synod in* Orkney

Edinburgh, May 15*th*, 1725. Sess. 11.

THE General Assembly taking to their Consideration the Circumstances of the Ministers of *Orknay* and *Cairthness*, and the great Difficulty they have in attending their Judicatures, as they are now constituted, by Reason of the dangerous Seas and Ferries that ly betwixt their Residences, and the

Places at present fixed for the Meeting of the said Judicatures; for remedying of the which Inconveniencies, and for the more easie and regular carrying on of the Lord's Work in those Countries, they did, and hereby do, unite and erect the Ministers of *Kirkwall*, *Dearness* and St. *Andrews*, *Holme*, *South-Ronaldshay*, and *Evie*, and *Rendall*, and a Ruling Elder from each united Parish, in one Presbytery, to be called the Presbytery of *Kirkwall*, and to meet at the Town of *Kirkwall*: The Ministers of the Parishes of *Birsay* and *Harray*, *Firth* and *Stenhouse*, *Orphir*, *Sandwick* and *Stromness*, *Gremsay* and *Hoy*, and *Walls* and *Flotta*, with a Ruling Elder from each of these united Parishes, into another Presbytery, to be called the Presbytery of *Cairstoun*, and to meet at *Cairstoun*: Also they appoint the Ministers of the Parishes of *Rousay* and *Egilshay*, *Westray* and *Papa-westray*, *Cross-parish*, *Burness* and *North-Ronaldshay*, *Lady-parish*, *Stronsay* and *Eday*, and *Shapinshay*, with their Ruling Elders, to continue their Meeting together as formerly, and to constitute a third Presbytery, to retain the Name of the Presbytery of *North-Isles*: And they appoint the Presbytery of *Kirkwall* to have their first Meeting at *Kirkwall*, upon the first *Wednesday* of *July* next, and thereafter at such Times as they shall find convenient; and the Presbytery of *Cairstoun* to meet at the Church thereof, upon the Third *Wednesday* of *July* next, and thereafter at such Times as they shall see Cause. And further, the General Assembly unites and erects the said three Presbyteries of *Kirkwall*, *Cairstoun* and *North-Isles* into a Synod, to be called the Synod of *Orknay*: And appoints them to meet at *Kirkwall*, and to hold their first Meeting upon the last *Wednesday* of *July* next, and thereafter at such Times and Places as they shall judge needful and convenient, and so to continue in all Time coming. And the Assembly hereby declares, that the said Synod, and the Presbyteries that constitute the same, shall have the same Powers and Privileges, that any other Synods and Presbyteries of this Church have, by the Word of GOD, and Constitutions of this Church. And further, the General Assembly did, and hereby do, disjoin and dismember the Presbytery of *Caithness* from the Synod of *Orknay*, and do adjoin and annex them to the Synod of *Ross* and *Sutherland*; And appoints the said Synod to have their first Meeting at *Tain*, the first *Tuesday* of *September* next, and their second at *Dornoch*, the first *Tuesday* of *April* next; and thereafter to hold their Meetings at the said Places *per vices*, at such Times, as they shall find necessary and expedient. And the General Assembly hereby ordains the Synod of *Ross* and *Caithness* to send two Ministers

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Correspondents to the said Synod of *Orkney* at every Meeting; and ordains the Synod of *Orkney* to send one of their Number to correspond with the Synod of *Ross* at their Meetings. And, *Lastly*, Considering that the Minister of *Shapinshay* lives within two Miles of the Town of *Kirkwall*; therefore, for the better Assistance of the foresaid Presbyteries, they ordain the said Minister to correspond with the Presbytery of *Kirkwall*: And sicklike, appoints the two Ministers of *Kirkwall*, by Turns, to correspond with the Presbytery of *Cairstoun*, beginning with the eldest of the said Ministers.

VI.

Commission to some Ministers and Ruling Elders, for Reformation of the Highlands and Islands of Scotland, *and for Management of the King's Bounty for that End.*

Edinburgh, May 17th, 1725. Sess. *ult.*

THE General Assembly taking to their Consideration, That His Majesty, upon its being represented to Him, by the General Assemblies of this Church, that Popery and Ignorance did increase and prevail in several Places in the *Highlands* and *Islands*, had, out of His great Concern for the Glory of GOD and Good of Souls, signified His gracious Inclination to contribute yearly the Sum of One thousand Pounds *Sterling*, to encourage Itinerant Preachers and Catechists to go to these Parts; And that His Majesty's Royal Warrant is already issued for One thousand Pounds *Sterling* for this Year, the Distribution whereof is entrusted to this Assembly: To the Intent therefore, that the same may be managed with all due Care and Fidelity, in Pursuance of the great and good Ends mentioned in the said Royal Warrant, and conform to it in all Points, the Assembly does appoint and ordain as follows. *Primo*, That Mr. *John Dundas* of *Philipstoun* Procurator for the Church be impowered, likeas he is hereby impowered, to receive the said One thousand Pounds *Sterling* for this first Year,

and to grant Discharge for the same, he giving sufficient Bail to the Committee under-written to apply the said Sum, after deducing the Charges of the Warrant, according to the Orders of that Committee. *Secundo*, That the Persons after-named, *viz.* the Reverend Mr. *James Alston*, Minister of the Gospel at *Dirleton* their Moderator, Masters *William Wisehart* Principal of the College of *Edinburgh*, *William Hamilton* Professor of Divinity there, *William Mitchel* at *Edinburgh*, *William Miller* there, *James Nisbet* there, *James Ramsay* at *Kelso*, *John Stirling* Principal of the College of *Glasgow*, *Niel Campbell* at *Renfrew*, *Allan Logan* at *Culross*, *James Hadow* Principal of the New-College of St. *Andrews*, *Alexander Anderson* at St. *Andrews*, *James Craig* at *Edinburgh*, *Samuel Semple* at *Libertoun*, *Niel M'Vicar* at *Westkirk*, *James Smith* at *Cramond*, *John Cuming* at *Humbie*, *James Hart* at *Edinburgh*, *John Wilkie* at *Strathbrock*, *Matthew Crawford* Professor of Church History in the College of *Edinburgh*, *Robert Kinloch* at *Dundee*, *William Steuart* at *Perth*, *William Morison* at *Tirree* and *Coll*, *George Chalmers* Principal of the King's College of *Aberdeen*, *James Chapman* at *Cromdale*, *Hugh Munro* at *Taine*, *Daniel M'Aulay* at *Braccadale*, *James Guthry* at *Irongray*, and *John Anderson* at *Kirkmaiden* Ministers; The Right Honourable *Charles* Earl of *Lauderdale*, *George* Lord *Reay*, Sir *Hugh Dalrymple* of *Northberwick* Baronet, Lord President of the Session, Mr. *Robert Dundas* younger of *Arniston* His Majesty's Advocate, *Adam Cockburn* of *Ormiston* Lord Justice-Clerk, Sir *Alexander Ogilvie* of *Forglen* Baronet, Mr. *James Erskine* of *Grange*, Sir *Francis Grant* of *Cullen* Baronet, Mr. *James Hamilton* of *Pancaitland*, Sir *Andrew Home* of *Kimmerghame*, Sir *Walter Pringle* of *Newhall*, Seven of the Senators of the College of Justice, *John Campbell* Esq; Lord Provost of *Edinburgh*, Colonel *John Erskine* of *Carnock*, Sir *James Steuart* of *Goodtrees* Baronet, Colonel *Robert Munro* of *Fowlis*, Mr. *Patrick Grant* of *Easter-Elchies* Advocate, Mr. *Hugh Dalrymple* senior Advocate, *George Drummond* Esq; one of the Commissioners of His Majesty's Customs, and Mr. *James Boswell* of *Auchinleck* Ruling Elders; Shall be a Committee to continue and endure, till another Committee be nominated in their Room, with full Power to employ and lay out the said Sum for the Ends mentioned in His Majesty's Royal Warrant, who are hereby impowered to chuse their own Moderator and Clerk; And appointed to have their Meetings at *Edinburgh* upon the *Fridays*, at Nine of the Clock Forenoon, next after the Meetings of the Commission of the General Assembly in *May* Current, *August*, *November* and *March* next; And

their first Meeting to be in the Burrow-Room at Nine of the Clock in the Forenoon, the first Day after the Dissolution of this Assembly, with Power to adjourn themselves to such Times and Places, and to name Sub-committees to prepare Matters, and see their Orders executed, as they shall think fit, and to meet oftner as there may be Occasion, upon Advertisement by their Moderator or Clerk, and that Nine shall be a *Quorum*, whereof Six shall be Ministers; And they are appointed to cause keep a Record of their Proceedings. *Tertio*, They are to appoint Itinerant Preachers and Catechists to go to the proper Places designed in His Majesty's Warrant; And for that End they are carefully to inform themselves of the fit Places, where the said Itinerant Preachers are to be sent and employ'd, and of Persons duly qualified for that Service, of good Abilities for the same, of a pious Life and Conversation, Prudent, of undoubted Loyalty to His Majesty, and competently skilled in the Principles of Divinity, and in Popish Controversies; and that none be employed as Catechists, but such as are certified, and found, upon due Trial, to be so qualified: And for these Ends the Committee are to correspond with Presbyteries, where these Preachers and Catechists are to be employed, and with the Society for propogating Christian Knowledge, and their Committee, and to advise with the Commission appointed by this Assembly, as there may be Occasion, and all these Itinerant Preachers and Catechists are appointed to be subject to the Presbyteries of the Bounds to which they are sent, and to be under their Inspection, and the said Presbyteries are to take Care that the Orders of the Committee be duly observed by the said Preachers and Catechists; and the said Preachers are also appointed to catechise, and both they and the Catechists to instruct the People from House to House, and visit the Sick; and in all their Labours among the People, to be careful to teach them the Principles and Duties of the true Christian Protestant Religion, and the Obligation they are under to Duty and Loyalty to our Sovereign King *George*, and Obedience to the Laws; and the Committee are impowered to give them such Instructions, as to their Work and Behaviour, as they shall judge meet, and they are appointed to obey the same. *Quarto*, That the Allowance to an Itinerant Preacher do not exceed the Sum of Forty Pounds *Sterling per Annum*, and that the Allowance to a Catechist do not exceed the Sum of Twenty five Pounds *Sterling* for the said Time, except upon special Circumstances of Sickness, Losses, or other Accidents. *Quinto*, To the End People may have the Benefit of Baptism and Marriage in remote

Corners of large Parishes, or where the Parishes are vacant, the Committee is hereby impowered to appoint Ministers of settled Congregations, within the Bounds of the Synods of *Argyle*, *Ross*, *Murray*, *Aberdeen*, and *Perth*, and Presbytery of *Dumbartoun*, to go to proper Places, for which they are to have a suitable Allowance out of the Fund, not exceeding Four Pounds *Sterling per* Month, except in the Cases foresaid, and such Ministers are to be subject to the Presbyteries in whose Bounds they are to be employed, during their Mission; and they are hereby ordered to obey the Committee's Appointments for their going to the same, otherwise to be censured by the Commission appointed by this Assembly, upon their Disobediences being represented to them; and their respective Presbyteries are required to supply their Churches during their Absence, and they are hereby declared not transportable to the *Highlands*. Also the Committee is to direct Presbyteries to order the changing of Posts between Ministers of settled Parishes, and Probationers employed in the distant Corners thereof, that the People may be readily served with Ordinances, which ordained Ministers only can dispense. And, *Lastly*, The Committee are in all Points strictly to conform themselves to the Terms and Articles of His Majesty's Royal Warrant, in the Discharge of the Trust hereby committed unto them. And the General Assembly ordains the several Presbyteries of the Bounds pointed at in His Majesty's Warrant, to meet as soon as they can, and draw up a State of their Bounds, and send in the same to the Agent for the Church to be laid before the said Committee; and ordains Copies hereof to be printed, and sent to Synods and Presbyteries.

VII.

Act establishing the Forms of Commissions to Members of the General Assembly, and Attestations thereof.

Edinburgh, May 17th, 1725. Sess. *ult.*

THE General Assembly judging it very necessary, that Commissions to Members of the National Assemblies of this Church, and Attestations thereof, should be according to, and in the Terms prescrib'd by the Acts formerly made concerning the

the ſame, have appointed, and hereby do appoint and ordain, the following Forms of Commiſſions and Atteſtations to be obſerved by Presbyteries, Seſſions, Univerſities, and Burghs; and enact and ordain, That all ſuch Commiſſions and Atteſtations be preciſely in the Terms following reſpectively; and prohibits Presbyteries and Seſſions to grant or atteſt any Commiſſions, which are not in theſe preciſe Words; and likewiſe prohibits Presbyteries and Seſſions to grant their own Atteſtations in any other Words than theſe preſcribed in this Act; With Certification, that in Time coming, every Commiſſion not conceived and atteſted in theſe very Words, ſhall be rejected.

Form of Commiſſions by Presbyteries.

At ——— *the* ——— *Day of* ——— *Years.*

THE which Day the Presbytery of ——— did, and hereby do, nominate and appoint Mr. ——— Miniſter at ——— and Mr. ——— Miniſter at ——— and ——— and ——— Ruling Elders, their Commiſſioners to the next General Aſſembly of this Church, ordained to meet at ——— the ——— Day of ——— next to come, or when and where it ſhall happen to ſit; willing them to repair thereto, and to attend all the Diets of the ſame; and there to conſult, vote, and determine in all Matters that come before them to the Glory of GOD, and the Good of his Church, according to the Word of GOD, the Confeſſion of Faith, and agreeable to the Conſtitutions of this Church, as they will be anſwerable; and that they report their Diligence therein at their Return therefrom: And the ſaid Presbytery does hereby teſtify and declare, that all the Miniſters above-named have ſign'd the *Formula*, enjoin'd by the 16th Act of the Aſſembly, *anno* 1711; and the Ruling Elders above-written have ſign'd the *Formula* preſcrib'd by the 11th Act of the Aſſembly 1694. And further, that all the ſaid Commiſſioners are every other Way qualify'd to be Members of the Aſſembly, according to the Acts of Aſſembly: and in particular, that the ſaid Elders are qualify'd in all Reſpects, according to what is required by Act 9th of the General Aſſembly, held *anno* 1722. Extracted by

C. D. Cls.

Attestation.

At ——— the ——— Day of ——— Years.

THE which Day the Presbytery of ——— having had the above Extract of their Commission to their Representatives in the ensuing Assembly, laid before them, they caused it to be read, and having revised and considered the same, they did approve thereof. Attested by

A. B. Morderator.

Or ——— *Cls.*

Form of Commissions from Universities.

At ——— the ——— Day of ——— Years.

THE which Day, the Principal, Professors, Masters and other Members of the University of ——— having Right to elect, did, and hereby do, nominate and appoint ——— their Commissioner to the next General Assembly of this Church, endited to meet at ——— the ——— Day of ——— next to come, or when and where it shall happen to sit, willing him to repair thereto, and to attend all the Diets of the same, and there to consult, vote, and determine in all Matters that come before them to the Glory of GOD, and Good of his Church, according to the Word of GOD, the Confession of Faith, and agreeable to the Constitutions of this Church, as he will be answerable, and that he report his Diligence therein at his Return therefrom; And it is hereby testified and declared, That the said ——— is a Minister (or an Elder) of this Church lawfully ordain'd, and hath sign'd the *Formula* enjoin'd by the 10th Act of the Assembly, *anno* 1711, (or if an Elder) hath sign'd the *Formula* prescrib'd by the 11th Act of the Assembly 1694. And further, that the said Commissioner is every other Way qualified to be a Member of the Assembly, according to the Acts of the Assembly, (and if an Elder it must be said) and in particular he is qualified in all Respects according to what is required by the 9th Act of the General Assembly held, *anno* 1722. Extracted by

C. D.

Attesta-

Attestation.

At ——— the ——— Day of ——— Years.

THE which Day, the Presbytery of ——— having had produced before them a Commission given by the University of ——— to ——— to represent the said University in the ensuing general Assembly of this National Church; do, in the Terms of the 4th Act of Assembly 1720, the 7th Act of Assembly 1723, and 4th Act of Assembly 1724, Testify and Declare, that the said ——— is a Minister (or an Elder) lawfully ordained, that he has signed the *Formula* enjoin'd by the 10th Act of Assembly 1711; (or, if an Elder) hath signed the *Formula* prescribed by the 11th Act of Assembly 1694, and that he is a Master of the said University, or ——— And further, that the said Commissioner is every other Way qualified to be a Member of the Assembly, according to the Acts of Assembly. This signed by

A. B. Moderator.

Form of Commissions from Burghs.

At ——— the ——— Day of ——— Years.

THE which Day the Magistrates and Town Council of ——— being conveened in Council, did and hereby do nominate and appoint ——— their Commissioner to the next General Assembly of this Church, endited to meet at ——— the ——— Day of ——— next to come, or when and where it shall happen to sit, willing him to repair thereto, and to attend all the Diets of the same; and there to Consult, Vote and Determine in all Matters that come before them, to the Glory of GOD and the Good of his Church, according to the Word of GOD, the Confession of Faith, and agreeable to the Constitutions of this Church, as he will be answerable; and that he report his Diligence therein at his Return therefrom: And it is hereby Testify'd and Declar'd, that the said ——— is an Elder of this Church lawfully ordained, and hath signed the *Formula* enjoin'd by the 11th Act of Assembly 1694, and is every other Way qualified to be a Member of Assembly, according to the Acts of Assembly; and in particular he is qualified in all Respects, according to what is required by the 9th Act of the General Assembly, held *anno* 1722. Extracted by

C. D. Cls.

Atteſtation by the Kirk Seſſion.

At ——— the —— Day of ——— Years.

THE which Day the Kirk Seſſion of —— having had laid before them a Commiſſion given by the Magiſtrates and Town Council of —— to ——— to repreſent the ſaid Burgh in the enſuing General Aſſembly of this National Church, do, in the Terms of the 4th Act of Aſſembly 1720, Teſtify and Declare, that the ſaid ——— is an Elder lawfully ordained, and that he has ſigned the *Formula* preſcribed by the 11th Act of the General Aſſembly 1694; and likewiſe that he is (a Reſidenter in the ſaid Burgh) or (an Heritor in the ſaid Burgh) or (an Heritor in the Bounds of the Presbytery of ——— within which the ſaid Burgh lies,) or (has formerly reſided and officiated as an Elder in the ſaid Burgh,) or (Presbytery of ——— within which the ſaid Burgh does ly.) Extracted by

A. B. Moderator.
C. D. Cls.

Atteſtation by the Presbytery.

At ——— the —— Day of ——— Years.

THE which Day the Presbytery of ——— having had produced before them a Commiſſion given by the Magiſtrates and Town Council of ——— to ——— to repreſent the ſaid Burgh in the enſuing General Aſſembly of this National Church, with an Atteſtation of the Kirk Seſſion of the ſaid Burgh, conform to the Direction of the Act 9th Aſſembly 1718, Act 4th Aſſembly 1720, and Act 4th Aſſembly 1724, do, in the Terms of the foreſaid Acts, likewiſe Teſtify and Declare, That the ſaid ——— is an Elder lawfully ordained, and that he has ſigned the *Formula* preſcribed by the 11th Act of Aſſembly 1694; and likewiſe that he is (a Reſidenter in the Burgh,) or (an Heritor in the ſaid Burgh,) or (an Heritor in the Bounds of the Presbytery of ——— within which the ſaid Burgh lies,) or (has formerly reſided and officiated as an Elder in the ſaid Burgh,) or (Presbytery of ———, within which the ſaid Burgh does ly,) and further, that the ſaid Commiſſioner is every other Way qualified to be a Member of the Aſſembly, according to the Acts of Aſſembly. This ſigned by,

A. B. Moderator.

VIII.

Act appointing the Diet of the next General Assembly.

THE next General Assembly of this National Church is appointed to be held at *Edinburgh*, upon the first *Thursday* of *May* next to come, One thousand seven hundred and twenty six Years.

This General Assembly was concluded with Prayer, singing of the CXXXIII. *Psalm throughout, and pronouncing of the Blessing.*

Collected and Extracted from the Records of the General Assembly, by

Jo. DUNDAS *Cls. Eccl. Scot.*

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OF THE

ACTS of the General Aſſembly of the Church of Scotland, *held in the Year* 1725, *which are not here printed.*

AFTER Sermon, by Mr. *William Wiſehart* Principal of the College of *Edinburgh*, Moderator of the preceeding Aſſembly, the Miniſters and Ruling Elders, Members of this Aſſembly, did conveen, and Mr. *James Alſton* Miniſter of the Goſpel at *Dirletoun* was choſen Moderator, *May* 6th 1725, *Seſſ.* 1.

His Grace His Majeſty's Commiſſioner's Speech to the General Aſſembly at the opening thereof. *Ibid.*

The Moderator's Return to the Commiſſioner's Speech. *Ibid.*

A Committee appointed to draw an Anſwer to His Majeſty's gracious Letter. *Ibid.*

Committee for Overtures appointed. *Ibid.*

Committee for Bills, References and Appeals. *Ibid.*

Committee appointed to examine the Form of Commiſſions given to the Members of this Aſſembly by their Conſtituents, and ſee if they agree with the Acts of Aſſembly, cenſure Abſents from this Aſſembly, or Diets thereof, name Miniſters to preach before his Grace His Majeſty's Commiſſioner, and to receive in the Liſts of Probationers and Students of Divinity, in order to their being recorded, and to bring in their Report as to Commiſſions, firſt to the Committee for Overtures. *Ibid.*

A Diet appointed for ſolemn Prayer. *Ibid.*

A Diet ſpent in Prayer, *May* 7th, *Seſſ.* 2.

Miniſters named to preach before the King's Commiſſioner, both for Sabbath firſt, and Sabbath come Se'nnight. *Ibid.*

The King's Commiſſioner delivered to the Aſſembly a Warrant under His Majeſty's Hand, ſignifying His gracious Inclination to contribute yearly a Thouſand Pounds *Sterling*, for the Encouragement of Itinerant Preachers and Catechiſts, to aſſiſt the Miniſters of large Pariſhes

in the *Highlands* and *Islands*, where Popery and Ignorance do prevail, and giving to this Assembly a Thousand Pounds *Sterling* for the first Year, to be disposed of by them for the foresaid Purposes, as they should think fit; which Royal Warrant was, by the General Assembly's Order, recorded in their Books; and the Committee for answering the King's Letter were desired, in the Draught of the said Letter, to take Notice of this His Majesty's pious Donation. *Ibid.*

Some new Commissions produced, and Additions made to Committees, *May* 8th, *Sess.* 3.

An Answer to His Majesty's most gracious Letter is unanimously approven, and subscribed by the Moderator: And the Lord Commissioner promises to transmit it to His Majesty, and a Copy thereof is ordered to be sent to his Grace the Duke of *Roxburgh* Secretary of State. *Ibid.*

A Committee is appointed to revise the Register of the Commission of the late General Assembly, to audite the Procurator and Agent's Accompts, consider the State of the Church's publick Money, and prepare Overtures about the same, and bring in any Overtures and References made by the late Commission to this Assembly. *Ibid.*

A Committee is appointed to receive in from the Commissioners their Synods and Presbyteries Instructions to them, or any Overtures they have to offer from them, to class the Matters therein-contain'd, and prepare Overtures therefrom; and to receive in the several Presbyteries their Remarks upon the Overtures transmitted to them by the late Assembly; and also to receive in any Accounts that shall be offered to them of the State of the Church in the North, the *Highlands* and *Islands*; particularly concerning the Growth of Popery and Superstition, and consider the same, and prepare Overtures for suppressing and preventing thereof; and likewise to receive in from the Visiters of the Commission-Book, the Returns sent from Synods and Presbyteries to the late Commission's Letters, and consider the same, and prepare Overtures therefrom, and to bring in their Report first to the Committee for Overtures, that they may fully prepare the same for the Assembly; and all the Brethren who had any Instructions or Overtures from their Synods or Presbyteries were advertised to give in the same to the Committee at their first Diet, and to wait upon all the subsequent Meetings of that Committee, that they may have an Opportunity to confer with them upon the Heads of the said Instructions and Overtures. *Ibid.*

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Report of the Society for propagating Christian Knowledge, concerning *John Raining*'s Mortification, and a Remit to the Committee for Overtures thereupon. *Ibid.*

Committees are appointed to revise the Actings of the Synods of *Argyle*, *Perth* and *Stirling*, *Aberdeen*, *Ross* and *Sutherland*, *Caithness* and *Orkney*, *Lothian* and *Tweeddale*, *Merse* and *Teviotdale*, *Drumfreis* and *Glasgow* and *Air*: But the Synod Books of *Fife*, *Angus* and *Mearns*, *Murray*, *Glenelg* and *Galloway*, not being brought up, the Assembly resolved, that when they receive the Report of the Visiters of the other Books, they will enquire into the Reasons, why the foresaid Books are not laid before them. *Ibid.*

The Receivers of the Books are made Conveeners of the rest of the Committee, and the Visiters in their going through the Books, are enjoined to observe the Directions of the Act 4th of Assembly 1713, and Act 5th of Assembly 1723. *Ibid.*

Remit to the Committee for Overtures, to consider the Royal Gift of a Thousand Pounds *Sterling*, and prepare Overtures for the right Management and due Application of the Money thereby bestowed, according to the true Intent thereof. *Ibid.*

The Appeal of some of the Heritors and Parishoners of *Carriddin*, from a Sentence of the Synod of *Lothian* and *Tweeddale*, appointing Mr. *John Johnstoun* Probationer to be settled Minister there, is called and continued: *Ibid.*

A Letter is ordered to be written to the Lord *Reay*, giving him Thanks for the Concern he has shown to advance Religion in his Country. The Absence of the Presbytery of *Caithness* from this Assembly is excused. The Commission is instructed to discuss any References or Appeals that may be brought before them about Planting the Parishes newly erected in *Strathnaver*: And 'tis recommended to the Synod of *Ross* and *Sutherland*, and the Presbyteries therein, to have a tender Regard to these Parishes, when any Processes for Planting them come before them: And the Commission is also instructed, and the Procurator and Agent for the Church are appointed, to use all possible Endeavours for securing the Money collected for these new Erections, and to do every Thing needful for perfecting the Settlement of the Parishes erected, and bringing in the Money for that End, that is not yet brought in: And such Brethren as had brought with them the Money collected in their Presbyteries, were desired to give it in to Mr. *James Young* of *Killicuntz*; and the Consideration

tion of the Presbytery of *Caithness*, and the Lord *Reay*'s Proposal, that a new Presbytery be erected in *Strathnaver*, and other Heads of their Letters to the Assembly are remitted to the Committee for Instructions, *May* 16. *Sess.* 4.

A Reference from the Synod of *Merse* and *Teviotdale*, for a Decision in a Process and Appeal of the Parishioners of *Marbottle*, against the Sentence of the Presbytery of *Kelso*, resolving to proceed to the Settlement of Mr. *James Christie* Minister at *Sympron*, as Minister of the vacant Parish of *Marbottle*, is tabled and continued. *Ibid.*

The Committee for revising Commissions reported, that they found many of them in some Things not in the Terms of the Acts of Assembly, which partly might be occasioned by the Clauses appointed to be insert in Commissions their lying scattered in several Acts of Assembly; and therefore they brought in a Draught of an Act concerning the several Forms of Commissions, and Attestations thereof. And the Assembly did remit the said Draught to the Consideration of the Committee for Overtures; and sustained all the Commissions for this Time. *Ibid.*

Intimation was made, that the Lists of Probationers and Students of Divinity should be given in to Mr. *William Miller*, who is appointed to receive the same. *Ibid.*

The Appeal by some of the Heritors, Elders, and Heads of Families of the Parish of *Kinkell*, from the Sentence of the Synod of *Aberdeen*, ordaining Mr. *James Strachan* Probationer to be settled as Minister of the said Parish contrary to their Inclinations, who had given their Suffrages for Mr. *Alexander Leask* late Minister at *Clate*, is called, and at the Request of the Appellants is delayed; and 'tis resolved, that the same shall be determined, immediately after discussing the Appeal of *Carriddin*. *Ibid.*

The Procedure of the Presbytery of *Dunkeld* in rejecting of a Call given by some of the Heritors, Elders and Heads of Families in the Parish of *Kincleven*, to Mr. *Alexander Stoddart* Minister of *Dunkeld* to be Minister of *Kincleven* is approven. *Ibid.*

An Appeal by the Magistrates and Town-Council of *Aberdeen*, against the Procedure of the Synod of *Aberdeen*, in disapproving of their Call to Mr. *James Chalmers* Minister at *Dyke*, to be one of the Ministers at *Aberdeen*, is tabled and delayed; and 'tis resolved, that the same shall be entred upon, immediately after the Business of *Kinkell*. *Ibid.*

The Presbytery of *Linlithgow* is appointed, upon the first Day of *September* next, to moderate in a new Call at large,

large, for Planting of the Parish of *Carriddin*; and is ordained to make previous and timeous publick Intimation to all concerned, of this Diet now fixed for that End; and to invite such other Probationers as the Heritors, Elders and Heads of Families shall desire to preach in the Church of the said Parish, and to admit into the Lite any that they shall propose. And also the Presbytery is appointed, as soon as possible, to meet for the express Purpose of this Settlement, and to proceed to the Planting of this Parish as speedily as can be; and the Commission is instructed and impowered to receive, cognosce, and finally determine in any References or Appeals that may be brought before them about the Planting of this Parish, *May* 11. *Sess.* 5.

The Sentence of the Synod of *Aberdeen*, appointing Mr. *James Strachan*'s Settlement as Minister of *Kinkell*, is affirmed: And 'tis earnestly recommended to the Synod to continue their Kindness to Mr. *Leask*, according as his Circumstances do require, *May* 12. *Sess.* 6. *ante meridiem.*

Some new Commissions produced, and Additions made to Committees, *eodem die, Sess.* 7. *post meridiem.*

The Planting of *Aberdeen* again moved, and after reading Papers, the Consideration thereof delayed, until To-morrow's Morning, and resolved then to discuss the same, before entring upon any other Business. *Ibid.*

The Matters set forth in the Petition of the Presbytery of *Skye*, *viz.* carrying on new Erections, nominating Preachers and Catechists for Places where Popery abounds, and promoting the Protestant Interest therein, and to ease them of corresponding with the Presbytery of *Glenelg*, are referred to the Consideration of the Commission and Committee for Management of His Majesty's Royal Gift of a Thousand Pounds *Sterling*, at their first Diet, and they are appointed to do what they judge proper for the Encouragement of the Synod of *Glenelg*, and Presbyteries and Brethren in the Bounds thereof, and for suppressing of Popery; and the Committee is impowered to grant an Allowance to Ministers, Preachers and Catechists to travel in the foresaid Bounds. *Ibid.*

The Matters set forth in the Representation of the Presbytery of *Long-Island*, *viz.* craving Schools, and Books to be dispersed there, and that all of their Number may be exeemed from being sent in Mission, That their Commissioners Expences in attending the General Assembly may be paid out of the publick Money, and other Particulars, are remitted to the Consideration of the Com-

miſſion and Committee for Management of the King's Gift, with Power to them to do therein as they ſhall find reaſonable, and in a Conſiſtency with the Acts of Aſſembly. *Ibid.*

An Appeal by the Presbytery of *Air*, againſt a Determination of the Synod of *Glaſgow*, whereby they appoint, that the ſaid Presbytery's Proportion of the Burſaries, payable in the foreſaid Synod, ſhould be Two hundred Pounds *Scots*, is remitted to a Committee. *Ibid.*

The Burſes of three of the Presbyteries within the Synods of *Merſe* and *Teviotdale*, which are at preſent vacant, are appointed to be punctually paid in to Mr. *John Walker* one of the Miniſters of *Canongate*, who is nominated Collector of the Money allowed for Maintenance of the two *Lithuanian* Students at the College of *Edinburgh*, to be by him paid to the ſaid Students, over and above the four Burſaries of the Synod of *Lothian* and *Tweedale*, already appropriated to them by an Act of Aſſembly, *May* 17*th* 1722. *Ibid.*

A New Call is appointed to be moderated for planting the Vacancy in *Aberdeen* with all convenient Speed, and in the Moderation of that Call, the Magiſtrates and Town Council of *Aberdeen* are to vote in Conjunction with the Elders; and the Inclinations of the Heads of Families, that attend Ordinances diſpenſed by the Miniſters of the eſtabliſhed Church, are appointed to be conſulted, and a Repreſentation of the whole Matter is ordered to be laid before the Presbytery, and they are appointed to proceed according to the Rules of the Church, *May* 13. Seſſ. 8.

The Society in *Scotland* for propagating Chriſtian Knowledge, and their Committee for Management, are again conſtituted the Aſſemblies Deputies, with Power to call for and receive the Sum of One Thouſand Pounds *Ster.* bequeathed by the deceaſt *John Raining* Merchant in the Pariſh of St. *Giles* in the City of *Norwich*, to the General Aſſembly of this Church, or any depated by them; and according to the ſaid Mr. *Raining*'s Will expreſt in his Teſtament, to appropriate the ſame towards the Planting a School in any Part of *North Britain*, where they think it moſt wanted, and will be moſt uſeful, and with that Sum to purchaſe Land or Eſtate, and with the Revenues thereof, to maintain at the ſaid School a good, pious and capable Schoolmaſter, or Maſters, to inſtruct and teach ſo many Fatherleſs and other poor Children in Engliſh, Latin and Arithmetick, as the ſaid yearly Income will maintain, and to appoint the Sallaries of the Schoolmaſters, and the Num-

Number of Children to be taught as they think proper, and to cauſe the ſaid Children to be inſtructed in the Knowlege of Chriſtianity, as ſet down in the Scriptures; and as a Help thereto, to be taught every Week the Aſſembly's Catechiſms, both Larger and Shorter, with the Proofs, and to oblige the Scholars to get them perfectly by Heart; provided always, that it ſhall not be in the Power of the ſaid Society or their Committee, to alienate or diſpoſe of any ſuch Lands or Eſtate, but it ſhall remain for the foreſaid Uſe for ever. And Sicklike, They are impowered to receive an additional Sum of Two Hundred Pound *Ster.* bequeathed by the ſaid Mr. *Raining* out of the Superplus of his Eſtate, after his other Legacies ſhould be paid, for erecting a Houſe, and purchaſing all convenient Furniture for a good School, and to do every Thing concerning this Affair, which the Aſſembly themſelves might do by Virtue of the ſaid Teſtament; they always obſerving inviolably the Will of the ſaid *John Raining* therein expreſt, without any Alteration whatſoever, and provided that they lay an Account of their Management of the ſaid Mortification before the General Aſſemblies of this Church, if required; and this Truſt and Deputation is declared revokable by ſubſequent Aſſemblies, as they ſhall ſee Cauſe, as to all future Management after the ſaid Revocation. And it is appointed, that any School, that ſhall be ſettled on this Fund, ſhall be called *Raining*'s School in all Time coming, *May* 14th, *Seſſ.* 9th. *ante meridiem.*

The Committee for reviſing the Commiſſion Book, having made their Report, the Regiſter of the Commiſſion is atteſted in the ordinary Form. *Ibid.*

The Commiſſioners of the late General Aſſembly receive the Thanks of this Aſſembly, for their Care and Diligence in proſecuting what was committed to them. *Ibid.*

The Members of Aſſembly ordered to meet by their Synods ſeverally, to name Perſons of their reſpective Synods to be a Committee for nominating the Members of a Commiſſion of this Aſſembly, and preparing the Draught of their Commiſſion and Inſtructions. *Ibid.*

The Petition of Mr. *James Wilſon* Student in Divinity, with Reſpect to his Burſe from the Presbytery of *Air*, is referred to the Committee formerly appointed to conſider the Appeal of the ſaid Presbytery about their Proportion of the Burſaries in the Synod. *Ibid.*

The Conſideration of the neceſſitous Condition of Mr. *William Mitchel* late Miniſter of *Newmabar*, is referred

to the Commission, that they may do what they can for his Relief. *Ibid.*

A Representation of the Grievances of Mr. *John Keith* Minister at *Walls* and *Flotta* in *Orkney*, is referred to the Consideration of the Commission, that they may do therein as they shall find Cause. *Ibid.*

'Tis referred to the Commission to consider what Encouragement may be proper to be given towards the publishing of Sir *Nicholas Trot*'s *Clavis Linguæ Sanctæ*, and to do in that Matter as they shall judge expedient. *Ibid.*

'Tis referred to the Commission to do all they can to recover from Mr. *George Redpath* at *London*, some authentick Copies of the old Registers of Assembly that are in his Hands, and they are impowered to give him such Encourgement to deliver the said Registers as they shall find reasonable. *Ibid.*

The Consideration of the Case of the Parish of *Marbottle* is referred to the Commission, with Power to call, cognosce and finally determine therein, at their first Diet, as they shall find just. *Ibid.*

The Commission is appointed to prepare some Overture to be laid before the next Assembly, that may effectually prevent the printing and dispersing of Narratives and States of Cases in Dependance before Church Judicatures, contrary to the Prohibition in the 17th Act of Assembly 1700. *Ibid.*

'Tis referred to the Committee for Bills, to consider a Letter from *Zurich* in *Switzerland*, pleading for the charitable Assistance of this Church, towards the Support of some distressed Protestants, lately relieved from the Popish Persecution, and settled in the Dominions of the Duke of *Wirtemberg*, together with other Cases of the like Nature from Places abroad, which ly before them. *Ibid.*

The Matters set forth in a Petition of Mr. *James Smith* Minister at *Gairloch*, and Commissioner from the Presbytery of *Gairloch*, and Overture of the Committee for Bills thereupon, are referred to the Commission in all Points, except as to the Demands upon the publick Money; the Consideration of which is delayed, until the Report of the Committee appointed to consider the State of the publick Money be heard, that the Assembly may then judge how far the Funds will allow of what is proposed by the Committee for Bills. *Ibid.*

List of Persons in the several Synods brought in, and these Persons appointed as a Committee for drawing the Commission to be given by this Assembly, naming the Persons to be thereon, and preparing their Instructions, *May* 14th, *Post meridiem Sess.* 10th.

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The Presbytery of *Dunkeld* is appointed to transmit to the Parish of *Dull*, in the usual Form, with all Dispatch, the Call of the Parish of *Cumbernauld* to Mr. *Duncan M'Lea* Minister of the said Parish of *Dull*, to be their Minister; and the Commission is instructed and impowered to receive, cognosce and finally determine in any Reference or Appeal that may be brought before them, about the Planting of the Parish of *Cumbernauld*. *Ibid.*

The Appeal of the Town and Parish of *Kirkcaldy* from a Sentence of the Synod of *Fife*, refusing to admit Mr. *Ebenezer Erskine* Minister at *Portmoak* upon the Lite for being Minister of the said Parish of *Kirkcaldy*, and recommending to them to unite in another Person, that may be proper for supplying their Vacancy, is referred to the Commission, with Power to do therein as they shall judge expedient. *Ibid.*

An Appeal of the Parishioners of *Marytoun*, from a Sentence of the Synod of *Angus* and *Mearns*, approving of the Conduct of the Presbytery of *Brichen*, with Respect to the Settlement of the said Parish, is referred to the Commission, with Power to them to determine therein as they shall think expedient. *Ibid.*

The Appeal of Mr. *Ebenezer Erskine* Minister at *Portmoak* against a Sentence of the Synod of *Fife*, appointing him to deliver a fair and full Copy of a Paper, which he had read before the Presbytery of *Kirkcaldy*, for the Help of his Memory, and afterwards gave in to them in short Hand, in a Case betwixt *John White* of *Ballo* and him, depending before the said Presbytery, is referred to the Commission, with Power to them to do therein as they shall find just. *Ibid.*

The Appeal of the Parish of *Kirkmichael* from a Sentence of the Synod of *Murray*, continuing Mr. *Farquhar Bethune* in the Exercise of his Ministry at *Croy*, and reversing the Sentence of the Presbytery of *Inverness* transporting him to *Kirkmichael*, is referred to the Commission. *Ibid.*

James Anderson in *Tushilaw*'s Appeal from the Synod of *Merse* and *Teviotdale*, in a Case of Scandal, is referred to the Commission, with Power to do therein, as they shall find just. *Ibid.*

It is referred to the Commission to determine, as they shall see Cause, in an Appeal by *William Lothian* of *Trabrown*, against a Sentence of Excommunication pronounced against him by the Synod of *Merse* and *Teviotdale*. *Ibid.*

The Synod Books of *Perth* and *Stirling*, *Aberdeen*, *Ross* and *Sutherland*, *Caithness* and *Orkney*, *Lothian* and *Tweeddale*,

dale, *Merſe* and *Teviotdale*, and *Glaſgow* and *Air*, are atteſted, with an expreſs Appointment on the Synod of *Caithneſs* and *Orkney*, that in Time coming they neglect not, at their privy Cenſures, to put the ordinary Queſtions to their Presbyteries; and becauſe the like Injunction was formerly given them, which has not been obeyed, this Injunction is now given with Certification; And the Clerk is diſcharged to ſubſcribe the Atteſtation of the Book of *Aberdeen*, until the ſame be firſt ſigned by the Moderator and Clerk; and of the Book of *Merſe* and *Teviotdale*, until ſome Blanks that are in it, be filled up. *Ibid.*

The Synod Books of *Argyle*, *Fife*, *Angus* and *Mearns*, *Murray*, *Drumfries* and *Galloway*, not being brought up, the Brethren from theſe Synods offered Excuſes, which were accepted for this Time, but the Books were ordered to be laid before the next Aſſembly; and in reſpect the Books of *Argyle*, *Angus* and *Mearns*, *Murray* and *Galloway*, were not at the laſt Aſſembly, nor the Books of *Murray* and *Argyle* at the Aſſembly 1723, they were ordered to be brought up to the next Aſſembly to be examined, with Certification, that if they be not, a Cenſure againſt the ſaid Synods will be recorded. *Ibid.*

A Commiſſion by this Aſſembly to ſome Miniſters and Elders, and Inſtructions to them, are approven, *May* 15. *Seſſ.* 11*th.*

The Accompts of the Procurator and Agent for the Church, with the Vouchers thereof, were brought in by the Committee appointed to audite the ſame, and their Report being read, the Accompts and Vouchers were laid on the Table, to be peruſed by ſuch of the Members as incline to inſpect the ſame. *Ibid.*

The Commiſſion is inſtructed and impowered to receive, cognoſce, and finally determine in any Appeals or References that ſhall come orderly before them, about the Planting of the Pariſh of *Kiltearne*. *Ibid.*

Upon Report of the Committee for the publick Accompts, the Aſſembly found, that the Proceſſes for new Erections in *Diurneſs* in *Strathnaver* and in the *Lewis*, ordered by former Aſſemblies to be carried on by the Procurator and Agent for the Church, are brought to a Period, and that ſeven Pariſhes are erected out of three; That there is a new Pariſh erected in *Falkirk*, and a Part of the old Pariſh diſjoined and annexed to other adjacent Pariſhes; That Stipends are ſettled to the Miniſters of *Rathven*, *Alvie*, *Logie* and *Urquhart*, *Glammuck*, *Killimuir* Weſter, *Botarie* and *Cair-*

Cairnie, *Kinnoir* and *Dunbennan*, in which Parishes Popery does abound, and also the Stipend of the Minister of *Gairloch*, and that Decreets in all these are extracted; That the Processes for settling the Stipends of the Ministers of *Forbes*, *Contane*, *Bowar* and *Thurso* are brought to a Period; That Processes for new Erections in *Tirree* and *Cole*, *Gigha*, *Cara* and *Collonsay*, *Kiltarlatie* and *Kilmorack*, and Prebyteries of *Sky*, *Longisland* and *Gairloch* are commenced, and the Processes for Settlement of Stipends to the Ministers of *Kilmanivaig* in *Lochaber*, and of *Aboyn* and *Glentannar*, where Popery prevails, are yet in Dependence; That several Parochial Schools are got settled, and Processes for others are yet in Dependence; and the Procurator and Agent for the Church their Diligence in these Matters was approven, and they were appointed to go on with such Processes as were ordered by former Acts to be managed at the publick Charges, and as Need requires, to take Advice of the Commission and Lawiers, Members thereof, who have already very kindly assisted *gratis*, in several of the Church's Matters: And His Majesty's Advocate and Solicitors, Sir *James Stewart*, Mr. *James Boswel*, Mr. *Hugh Dalrymple* Senior, Mr. *Alexander Abercrombie*, and Mr. *Robert Craigie* Advocates, got the Thanks of the Assembly for their Assistance to the Church in Processes wherein her publick Interests are concerned. *Ibid.*

The Procurator for the Church is warranted and appointed to pay to Mr. *James Smith* Minister at *Gairloch*, the Sum of One thousand Pound *Scots* out of the publick Money, so soon as all prior and preferable Debts upon the said Fund are satisfied and paid, and that conform to the Order of Ranking established by the Acts of Assembly. *Ibid.*

Upon Report of the Committee for the Appeal of the Presbytery of *Air*, the Sentence of the Synod of *Glasgow*, ordering the said Presbytery to advance two Burseries, is reversed, and any Words in the Records of the Synod, inferring a Censure against that Presbytery, are ordered to be expunged; and Mr. *James Wilson* is continued in Possession of his Burse of the Presbytery of *Air*. *Ibid.*

The Commission is instructed and impowered to receive, cognosce and finally determine in any References or Appeals that shall be brought before them for planting the Vacancies in the Town of *Aberdeen*. *Ibid.*

The Procurator and Agent for the Church are appointed to assist Mr. *Thomas Mitchel* Minister at *Abernyte*, in pro-

procuring an Augmentation of his Stipend upon the publick Charges of the Church. *Ibid.*

'Tis recommended to all the Synods, Presbyteries and Parishes deficient in contributing towards the Building of a Bridge over the Water that divides the Parish of *Lathnot* from *Naver*, to collect *quamprimum*, and send in the Money to the Presbytery of *Brechin*, that the said good Work may be carried on. *Ibid.*

The Procurator and Agent for the Church are appointed at the publick Charges of the Church, to carry on the Process for making effectual the deceast *Thomas Forbes* late Baillie of *Fortrose* his Mortification of 1800 Merks, for Maintenance of a Catechist in that Town, and bygone Annualrents thereof. *Ibid.*

The Consideration of the Case of the Parish of *Aroquhar*, as set forth in a Petition of the Presbytery of *Dumbarton*, is referred to the Commission, and they are instructed to do what they can for removing the Grievances of the said Parish, and for the speedy Planting thereof. *Ibid.*

Act erecting the Presbytery of *Cairstoun* and Synod of *Orknay* approven, but reserving to the Presbytery of *Caithness* to be heard at the next Assembly, if they have any Thing of Moment to object. *Ibid.*

The Commission is instructed and appointed, maturely to consider a Proposal made by the Right Honourable the Lord *Reay* and the Presbytery of *Caithness*, of erecting a new Presbytery in the Country of *Strathnaver*, and to correspond with the Presbytery of *Caithness*, and other neighbouring Judicatures and Brethren, that may be concerned in the said Matter, and to prepare a distinct Overture thereabout, to be laid before the next Assembly. *Ibid.*

The Commission is instructed and appointed, at their first Meeting, to take under their Consideration the indigent Case of *Ann Moodie* Relict of Mr. *Alexander Mair* late Minister at *Hoy* and *Gramsay* in *Orknay*, and 'tis recommended to them to do what they can for her Relief. *Ibid.*

Upon a Petition of *William Ross* and *David Erskine* Citizens of the City of *Kaidan* in *Lithuania*, and Assessors of the Magistracy, and Members of the Reformed Church there, for Charity, it was found not convenient to grant a general Recommendation through *Scotland*, there having been of late so many publick Collections; but for the Relief and Supply of these Petitioners, and of Mr. *Stephen Vorgar* an *Hungarian* Student, presently attending the Profession of Divinity in the University of *Edinburgh*,

Linburgh, of whose indigent Condition a very affecting Representation was offered, a Collection was made in open Assembly, and a small Part of the Money was given to the said Mr. *Stephen*, and the rest to the foresaid Petitioners. *Ibid.*

'Tis referred to the Commission to consider what may be done for the Relief of the Colony of poor Protestant Refugees recommended by a Letter from *Zurich*, and they are impowered to do for them what they shall think reasonable, and to write a Return to the Letter sent from *Zurich*. *Ibid.*

Publick Intimation is made, that all within the Bounds in which Collections were formerly recommended, for encouraging the new Erection in *Norristoun*, who have collected, and brought up their Money, to deliver it in to Mr. *Matthew Wallace* Minister of the Gospel at *Kincardine*, who is appointed Collector thereof by the Presbytery of *Dumblane*; and it was recommended to all Deficients yet to set about the said Collection, and to send up their Money to *Nicol Spence* Agent for the Church, or the said Mr. *Wallace*; and the Commission is instructed to take special Care to bring in this Collection. *Ibid.*

Act approving the Accompts of Mr. *John Dundas* Advocate Procurator for the Church, for a whole Year of his Majesty's Allowance to the Church, which was at the Disposal of the last Assembly 1724, for defraying the Charges of the Church for that Year, and discharging him and his Cautioner of his Intromissions, and appointing the Balance of Nineteen Pounds five Shillings nine Pennies and five six Parts of a Penny *Sterling* due to him, to be stated as an Article of Discharge in his next Accompts. *Ibid.*

Act approving the Accompts of *Nicol Spence* Agent for the Church his Intromissions with the Church's Money, and sustaining his Depursements on the Church's Affairs, from the first of *May* 1724 to the first of *May* 1725, and appointing the Balance of nine Pounds four Shillings and one sixth Part of a Penny *Sterling*, due to him this Year, besides the Balance of One hundred and twelve Pounds eight Shillings nine Pennies *Sterling*, with the Interest thereof, resting by former Accompts, to be payed to him according to the Rules of Preference established by former Assemblies, and discharging him fully of his said Accompts. *Ibid.*

Some Ministers and Ruling Elders are appointed for the right Management and due Application of the Thousand Pounds *Sterling* bestowed by his Majesty on this

Church, for encouraging itinerant Preachers and Catechists, to go to Places in the Highlands and Islands where Popery and Ignorance do encreaſe, and a Commiſſion and Inſtructions to them are approven. *Ibid.*

An Act eſtabliſhing the Forms of Commiſſions to Members of Aſſembly, and Atteſtations thereof, is approven. *Ibid.*

The following Overtures, *viz.* for Maintenance of the Poor, and reſtraining idle and ſturdy Beggars; concerning Governours of Youth, and Teachers of Schools, the Trial and Admiſſion of Elders and Deacons, and the Planting of Pariſhes, eſpecially *tanquam jure devoluto*, are referred to the Conſideration of the Commiſſion, and they are appointed carefully to go through the ſame, and prepare them fully to be laid before the next Aſſembly. *Ibid.*

The Overture concerning the Form of a Licence to Probationers, and Overture as to Miniſters, Probationers, Elders and Deacons their ſigning the *Formula* preſcribed by Act of Aſſembly 1711, are continued as ſtill tranſmitted, for another Year, and Presbyteries, who have not ſent in their Remarks thereupon, are appointed to ſend them in to the next Aſſembly. *Ibid.*

It is earneſtly recommended to the Deficients in collecting for the Relief of the *Scots* Presbyterian Congregation of the City of *New-York* in *America*, that they would make their Collections with all Diligence, and ſend the Money to Mr. *John Martine* of *Aires* the Collector thereof, as ſoon as poſſible. *Ibid.*

The Matters ſet forth in a Petition of ſome Elders in the Presbyteries of *Jedburgh*, *Selkirk* and *Erſletoun*, are referred to the Commiſſion, with Power to do therein as they ſhall judge expedient. *Ibid.*

The Procurator for the Church is appointed to pay to Mr. *George Grant*, preſent Aſſiſtant at *Glenlivet*, out of the Church's publick Money, the Sum of Two hundred Merks *Scots* of Salary, from *Martinmas* 1724, to *Whitſunday* laſt bypaſt 1725. *Ibid.*

It is referred to the Commiſſion to conſider what is repreſented in the Petition of the Provincial Synod of *Roſs* and *Sutherland*; and 'tis recommended to them to hear all Parties concerned, before they come to any Concluſion therein. *Ibid.*

The Commiſſion is appointed to call for a Report of the Committee named by former Commiſſions, to inſpect the Impreſſions of the *Confeſſion of Faith* and *Catechiſms*, and other Books authoriſed by this Church, &c. *Ibid.*

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Lists of Probationers and Students of Divinity were brought in and read, and the Lists of Probationers ordered to be recorded. *Ibid.*

All Matters referred by the late Assembly to their Commission, and not yet discust, are referred to the Commission of this Assembly, with Power to proceed therein, according to the Directions given thereabout by the said former Assembly. *Ibid.*

The Minutes of this Day's *Sederunt* were read, the Minutes of preceeding *Sederunts* having been all formerly read at the respective Diets subsequent to each *Sederunt*. *Ibid.*

A Committee was appointed to revise the Minutes of this Assembly, and give Orders for printing such of the Acts thereof, as are to be standing Rules, or are of publick Use. *Ibid.*

The Moderator's Speech to the Assembly, and to his Majesty's Commissioner. *Ibid.*

The Lord Commissioner made a Speech, and the Assembly was concluded. *Ibid.*

FINIS.